

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE – EXAMINING GROUP 2155**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

First Named Inventor: CUNCHON, FRANCOIS

Art Unit: 2155

Application No.: 09/936,286

Examiner: K. Bates

Filed: September 12, 2001

Confirmation No.: 3967

For: SECURE MULTIAPPLICATION PROXY

\* \* \*

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL**

**Mail Stop AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application.

The Office Action rejects claims 7-14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) in view of Feigen and claims 8-9 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Feigen in view of Winger.

With reference to Figure 1 of the present application and in contrast to Figs. 1 and 3 of Winger (below with highlighting added), Applicants would like to point out a subtle yet important distinction between the two inventions. As recited in independent claim 7, the network layer of the gateway machine reroutes to the second port of the gateway machine any message sent to the first port of the server application that is addressed to the server machine. The second port of the gateway machine listens to detect a request to

establish the first connection with the first port of the server application. The gateway machine generates a thread for establishing the first connection when a request to establish the first connection is detected in the second port of the gateway machine.

In contrast, in Feigen, filter 16 routes the first connection request to the security host 26, where a security service prevents the first connection request from being transmitted within inside network 14. The security service saves the first connection request but does not return acknowledgment to the client application. The source host 22 then sends a second connection request message toward inside network 14 when the second message requests connection to the security service. (See Fig. 1 and column 4, lines 3-18.)

U.S. Patent

Dec. 16, 1997

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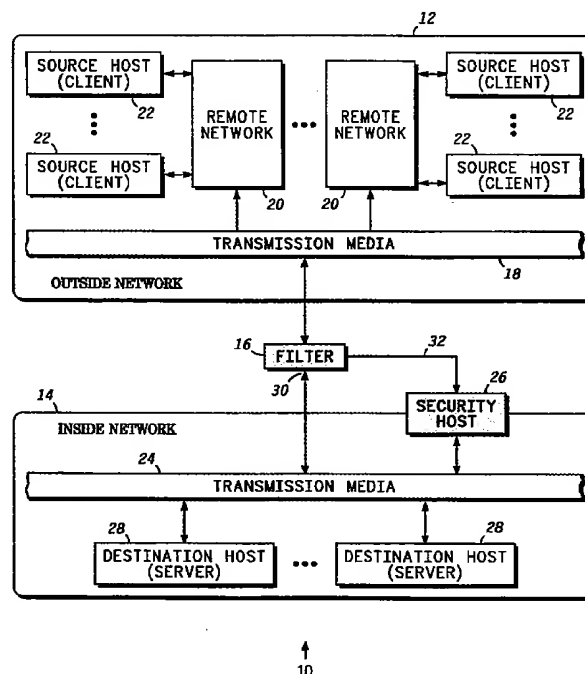
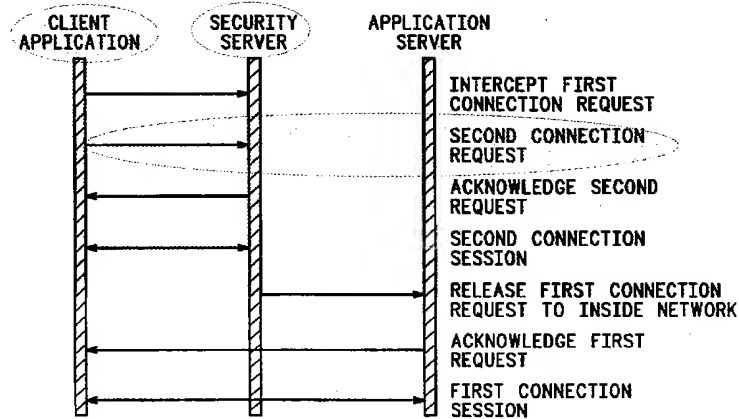


FIG. 1

**FIG. 3**

Thus, in Feigen, the second request is directed toward the security service itself.

In contradistinction, in the claimed listening step, any message sent to the first port of the server application, and addressed to the server machine, is rerouted to the second port of the gateway machine. The second port of the gateway machine then listens to detect a request to establish the first connection with the first port of the server application. Thus, the request to establish the first connection with the first port of the server application is addressed to the server machine, yet is being rerouted to the second port of the gateway machine.

In Feigen, the second request is actually addressed to the security service directly. (See, for example, step 76 in Fig. 4.) This is also clear from the data flow of Figure 3 which indicates that the second connection request is from the client application to the security service, as opposed to the application server.

At least based on the above, Applicants respectfully submit independent claim 7 is patentably distinguishable from the Feigen reference. For similar reasons, claim 14 is also patentably distinguishable from the Feigen reference. In that Winiger fails to

overcome these deficiencies, Applicants respectfully submit the outstanding rejections are untenable, and should be withdrawn. A prompt Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (T2147-907461) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 29, 2006

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